

Q' sequence selected from the group of amino acid sequences  
represented by SEQ ID NO: 34 to NO: 40, or a protein  
comprising an amino acid sequence in which one or several  
amino acids are deleted, substituted or added in the amino  
acid sequence of said protein, and having an activity related  
to IgA nephropathy, comprising:

culturing the transformant according to claim  
12 in a medium to produce and accumulate said protein in the  
culture; and

recovering said protein from the resulting  
culture.

Q<sup>2</sup> 15. (Amended) A method for immunologically  
detecting the protein according to claim 9 using [the] an  
antibody [according to claim 14] which recognizes the  
protein.

#### REMARKS

Claims 13 and 15 are amended in order to comply  
with accepted U.S. practice. No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.